# Encore

News and Information from Redmond Senior Programs

June 2020

### A Message from Carrie Hite

Happy June! My hope is that you are safe, healthy and finding ways to take care of your mental and physical health. I miss our conversations and connections in Bytes Café and at the Redmond Community Center and look forward to the day that we can come together again.

Our community centers are closed through June 30, and all recreation activities are cancelled through July 5. Staff are working on a redeployment plan that will allow us to resume operations of facilities and some programs in accordance with Governor Inslee's Safe Start plan. Our top priority is the safety of our community and employees, and we want to provide the safest options during this time.

The role of parks and recreation is centered on building community through people, programs, and parks. How we do this during the COVID-19 pandemic looks different, but we remain committed to this purpose. We want you to know that you are not alone in this crisisand we are here for you!

Recently, the Mayor launched a new campaign - Spread Positivity. We can all use a little pick-me-up, and the community is encouraged to share videos, words of encouragement and photos.

#### A few positive, uplifting stories from around our community:

- Since April 12, 927 meals have been served through the Meals on Wheels program.
- · Last month we celebrated the dynamic duo (Bob and Kermit) and the Indian Association of Western Washington for their amazing contributions to our community through volunteerism.
- Redmond joined cities from around the country in the #LightItBlue campaign.

I invite you to join us in this campaign and brighten someone's day!



If you would like to help us spread some positivity, take a photo or video of a positive word or phrase and email it to rsc@redmond.gov.







Register: Online at redmond.gov/register or call 425-556-2300

If you have questions about how online activities work, how to connect or questions about using the specific device(s) you have at hometo connect online. please email Senior Program staff at rsc@redmond.govorcall Course #18341 425-556-2314.

SAT June 6 - 10 a.m. Saturday Book Group Course #18353

MONJune 8 - 10 a.m. Marty's Men's Meeting Course #18355

TUE June 16 - 10 a.m. Writing Your Life Story Course #18354

FRI June 19 - 1 p.m. Friday Book Group Course #18352

THU June 25 - 10 a.m. Online Virtual Visit Time

### Book Groups Return - Now Online!



A nice benefit to staying at home is the additional time we all have to read! It seems like a great time to get the monthly book groups up and running again - only this time, online!

There are two groups from which to choose: Third Friday of the month at 1pm and the first Saturday of the month at 10 am. Both groups will utilize Zoom online meetings.

If you have any questions about the book groups or how to join the meetings online, please call Senior Program staff at 425-556-2314 or email us at rsc@redmond.gov.

Register for Book Group online: redmond.gov/register or by phone 425-556-2300 Friday #18354 | Saturday #18353



### Redmond Seniors Cook!

Redmond Senior Programs is compiling a cookbook of favorite recipes from our participants and we'd love to include yours.

We will gather all your entries and post it on our website as a printable Redmond Senior Cookbook! If you would like to participate, please email your recipe to rsc@redmond.gov.

Breakfast, dinner, dessert or lunch share your recipes, we need a bunch!

### Keep inTouch!

Call: 425-556-2314 Mon - Fri 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Email: rsc@redmond.gov Connect Online: Redmond.gov/rsc

## Senior Advisory Committee

Here's your chance to find out how well you know the members of the Senior Advisory Committee (SAC).

Answers to these trivia questions are posted on our city webpage,

Redmond.gov/rsc.

There you'll also find updated information, resources and links to virtual recreation opportunities.

Good luck!

- 1. Which member of the SAC Committee was the Deputy City Clerkfor Redmond from 1986 - 2008?
- 2. How many members are on the SAC Committee?
- 3. Which member was the first female Police Beat reporter for the South Bend Tribune?
- 4. As of June 2020, who is the newest member of the committee?

### Focus on Keeping Connected

Redmond Senior Program participants have created tight bonds of friendship within our senior community. It has been difficult for all of us to be separated from our family and friends, but probably more so for our seniors - many of whom rely on the senior program activities to socialize and connect with their peers. We have been thrilled to hear that many of our seniors are making the effort to stay connected on their own!

Virginia Serna, the volunteer leader of the Writing Your Life Story interest group, states "members of the group are staying connected through texts, emails and phone calls. This group is tight-knit and a deep sense of caring has developed through sharing and identifying with each other's life stories."

Let us know how you're staying connected! Email rsc@redmond.gov or call 425-556-2314.



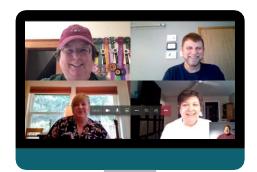
Char McDonald is the volunteer Needle Arts Interest Group leader. The quarantine has not deterred these knitters and crocheters from staying connected. Char says "the participants in the Needle Arts Interest Group are keeping in touch by email, text and phone calls. We are all working on hats and scarves [to donate] for the Operation School Bell program, and we even share yarns by dropping off at doorsteps."



Brian Baker is a senior volunteer and as taken great initiative to keep seniors connected in the community. From sharing artwork, photos and interesting news on his 'Friends of the Senior Center' Facebook page, to social distancing with senior program friends in local parks for coffee, and reaching out through emails and phone calls. Brian remarks, "I have been calling texting or emailing people...just to check in and see if they need anything. Mostly, I just want them to know they are not alone."

### Do YouZoom?

Seems like everyone is on Zoom these days, and we are, too! If you would like to attend any of our online activities and haven't used Zoom before, we have detailed instructions for creating a free Zoom account on our webpage <a href="redmond.gov/rsc">redmond.gov/rsc</a>. If you need additional assistance, call us at 425-556-2314 or email rsc@redmond.gov and we'll be sure to get you the answers you need. Get ready to Zoom online with us-we're excited to see you there!





Deanna Francis and Sandy Marion Co-Chairs, Senior Advisory Committee (SAC). Can you answer the SAC Trivia on page 2?



Redmond Senior Programs 15670 NE 85th Street Redmond, WA 98052

### **Interest Groups: Better Together!**

What is a Senior Program Interest Group? It is like-minded people connecting over a common interest. Over the past 30 years there has been an average of 20 groups meeting weekly or monthly with interests covering a wide range such as painting, needle arts, and card playing to more active pursuits such as our walking group, tennis and pickle ball. The term Better Together is a great descriptor for these groups because whether it's a new interest you're exploring or you're a seasoned pro, it's great to share it with others and always better to do it together!

While we are asked to stay apart at this time, some of these groups have found ways to connect on their own which is fantastic! The Senior Program staff has also helped facilitate online meetings for some groups such as our book clubs.







If you are part of an existing Senior Interest Group that would like to try online meetings, please let us know by calling 425-556-2314 or email rsc@redmond.gov. We can set up the virtual meetings for you through Zoom - let us do the scheduling, and you have the fun!

### Spotlight On: Writing Your Life Story

Writing Your Life Story is a Senior Program interest group that meets weekly. Participants gather to recall, share and write about their lives while helping and encouraging each other in preserving their varied histories.

Although most do like to share their stories outside of the group, they adhere to the philosophy of "what you share in Writing Your Life Story stays in the group" unless the writer gives permission to publish their story to a broader audience.

Please check the Senior Programs web page, redmond.gov/rsc, for a collection of work published from this group.

Anyone interested in writing and sharing their stories is invited to join the group. We are currently meeting online on the third Tuesday of each month.

You can register for this interest group online at <u>redmond.gov/register</u> or over the phone by calling 425-556-2300.

The City of Redmond assures that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or gender, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity. For more information about Title VI, please visit redmond.gov/TitleVI. 无歧视声明可在本市的网址redmond.gov/TitleVI 上查阅 El aviso contra I discriminación está disponible en redmond.gov/TitleVI.t